



New Project

SF 126

Blueberry gall midge: sex
pheromone monitoring and control
with insecticides

Project Number: SF 126

Title: Blueberry gall midge: sex pheromone monitoring and control with insecticides

Start and end dates: 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2014

Project Leader: Professor Jerry Cross, East Malling Research

Industry Representative (s): Laurie Adams (Soft Fruit Panel)
Junior Olivier (Soft Fruit Panel)

Location: Main site: East Malling Research

Additional sites: Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich

Grower sites: Including Redbank Fruit Ltd, Redbank Farm, Ledbury, Herefordshire

HDC Cost: £ 60,871

SUBJECT TO CONTRACT

Project Summary:

The female produced sex pheromone of the blueberry gall midge will be identified, synthesised and used in sex pheromone monitoring trap for the midge. The trap will be calibrated for population monitoring and used for timing of sprays. Efficacy trials will be conducted to identify insecticides for control of the midge and the most effective time for their application for control will be determined.

Aims & Objectives:

(i) Project aim:

To develop a sex pheromone monitoring trap for blueberry gall midge and methods of using it for monitoring and timing insecticides for control

(ii) Project objectives:

1. Identify the chemical structure of the female sex pheromone of the blueberry gall midge
2. Synthesise the blueberry gall midge sex pheromone, and demonstrate attraction of male midges in growers' fields
3. Produce an optimised sex pheromone lure and trap for blueberry gall midge monitoring
4. Supply traps to selected growers so that populations can be monitored through the year on farms to determine the midge's population dynamics
5. Identify effective insecticides for blueberry gall midge
6. Evaluate the optimum time to spray the most effective product identified in objective 5 in relation to sex pheromone trap catches and transfer technology to growers

Further information

Email the HDC office (hdc@hdc.ahdb.org.uk), quoting your HDC number, alternatively contact the HDC at the address below:

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